

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-13 and 20-43.

Please amend the claims as follows:

14. (amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a KDEL receptor inhibitor [of claim 1] comprising a trimer of protein subunits, wherein each subunit comprises an oligomerization domain and has, at its carboxy terminus, a region which binds to a KDEL receptor.

15. (amended) The [An] isolated nucleic acid encoding a KDEL receptor inhibitor of claim [2] 14, wherein the region which binds to a KDEL receptor has the amino acid sequence Lys-Asp-Glu-Leu.

16. (amended) The [An] isolated nucleic acid encoding a KDEL receptor inhibitor of claim [3] 14, wherein the oligomerization domain is a pentamerization domain.

17. (amended) The [An] isolated nucleic acid encoding a KDEL receptor inhibitor of claim [4] 15, wherein the oligomerization domain is a pentamerization domain.

18. (amended) The [An] isolated nucleic acid encoding a KDEL receptor inhibitor of claim [5] 16, wherein the pentamerization domain is derived from a cartilage oligomeric matrix protein.

19. (amended) The [An] isolated nucleic acid encoding a KDEL receptor inhibitor of claim [6] 14, wherein the pentamerization domain is derived from a cartilage oligomeric matrix protein.

REMARKS

Claims 14-19 are pending. Claims 1-13 and 20-43 are cancelled without prejudice to their prosecution in other patent applications.